having treatment capacity of 741 mld at a total expenditure of Rs. 678 crores in the states of Delhi, UP & Haryana.

National Environment Policy

45. SHRI B. J. PANDA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to formulate a National Environment Policy;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) how far, this would help to address the environmental concerns in development activities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Environment and Forests has prepared a draft National Environment Policy (NEP).

(b) The draft NEP is a response to our national commitment to a clean environment, mandated in the Constitution. It recognizes that maintaining a healthy environment is not the State's responsibility alone, but also that of every citizen. It briefly describes key environmental challenges, currently and prospectively facing the country, the objectives of environment policy, normative principles underlying policy action, strategic themes for intervention, broad indication of the legislative and institutional development needed to accomplish the strategic themes, and mechanisms for implementation and review.

(c) The NEP is intended to help realize sustainable development by mainstreaming environmental concerns in all development activities and relevant sectoral policies. It is expected to serve as a guide to action plans, programmes and projects for environmental conservation.

Assistance to EPIs in Andhra Pradesh

46. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY:
SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO:

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the assistance to food processing industries in Andhra Pradesh during the last five years;

(b) the details of assistance given for cold storage facilities in the State during that period, year-wise;

(c) whether there is any proposal for increasing the assistance to 33 per cent which is now being given to some of the States of the country; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) and (b) Details of financial assistance sanctioned to the food processing industries in Andhra Pradesh during the 10th Plan period is as under:—

Sl. No.	Year	Amount (Rs. in lakh)
1.	2002-2003	167.89
2.	2003-2004	526.74
3.	2004-2005	854.06
4.	2005-2006	441.04 (upto Dec. 2005)

During 2004-05 an amount of Rs. 6.78 lakh has been released for a cold storage plant in Andhra Pradesh.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) As assistance under the scheme is in nature of grant, the existing rate limited to 25% of the project cost subject to a maximum of Rs. 50 lakh in general areas is considered adequate.

EPIs in Assam

47. SHRI DWIJENDRA NATH SHARMAH: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Food Processing industries set up in Assam during the last three years;